

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed 29 Jul. 2008.

Claims 2-17 and 21-25 are pending in this case. Claims 2, 10 and 21 are independent claims.

Applicant's Response

In Applicant's Response dated 29 Jul. 2008, Applicant amended claims 2, 10, 21 and 24; cancelled claim 1.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Piotrowski on 26 Sep. 2008.

In the claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method for previewing documents on a computer system comprising the steps of:

displaying a main document which contains a first hyperlink;

~~and in response to an indication of the first hyperlink being received by the computer system,~~ displaying a first preview document, which is referred to by said first hyperlink, in response to an indication of said first hyperlink, which first preview document being that referred to by the first hyperlink whilst retaining ~~[[a]]~~ said display of the main document, ~~so that the document referred to by the first hyperlink may be, previewed, wherein the first preview document contains a second hyperlink~~

wherein said first preview document contains a second hyperlink;

~~in response to an indication of the second hyperlink being received by the computer system,~~ displaying a second preview document ~~which second preview document being that~~ , which is referred to by [[the]] said second hyperlink, in response to an indication of said second hyperlink whilst retaining ~~[[the]]~~ said display of ~~[[the]]~~ said first preview document and said display of said main document ~~so that the document referred to by the second hyperlink may be previewed~~

wherein indicating each hyperlink ~~is indicated~~ to the computer system by positioning a pointer over the hyperlink;

wherein each preview document is opened in a corresponding preview window,

wherein when each preview document is opened, the pointer automatically moves to within the newly opened preview window,

wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said first preview document window remains open as long as the pointer remains in ~~the window corresponding to the~~ said second preview document window or ~~[[the]]~~ a window corresponding to a subsequent preview document derived via a subsequent hyperlink in ~~[[the]]~~ said second preview document,

wherein when the pointer is moved from the second preview document .window to the first preview document window, the second preview document window closes,

wherein when the pointer is moved to a region not in ~~[[the]]~~ said first preview document window or ~~[[the]]~~ said second preview document window, or a window corresponding to a subsequent preview document derived via a subsequent hyperlink in said second preview document, both the first and second preview document windows close.

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 2 further comprising the step of:

in response to an indication of a displayed document being received by the computer system, removing from display any and all preview documents deriving from the indicated document.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

in response to a selection of a displayed preview document being received by the computer system, substituting the selected preview document for the main document;

Art Unit: 2176

and removing from display all preview documents.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3 further comprising the step of:

 caching a preview document which has been removed from display.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2 wherein the second hyperlink is indicated to the computer system by positioning [[a]] the pointer over the second hyperlink.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 3 wherein the document is indicated by positioning [[a]] the pointer at a location in the displayed document where there is not a hyperlink.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 4 wherein the preview document is selected by clicking a pointer at a location in the displayed preview document where there is not a hyperlink.

9. (Original) A method according to any preceding claim wherein documents are displayed in windows according to Microsoft.RTM Windows.RTM. format.

Art Unit: 2176

10. (Currently Amended) A system for displaying preview text and spreadsheet documents referred to by a link in a main document, the system comprising:

~~a local network;~~

a local network containing one or more document stores; ~~connected with the local network to store text and spreadsheet documents;~~

wherein said one or more document stores contains said preview text and said spreadsheet document documents;

a plurality of ~~work stations~~ workstations connected ~~[[with]]~~ to the local network,

wherein each workstation being operable to store the preview text and the spreadsheet documents in said one or more document stores;

wherein each workstation being operable to access ~~stored~~ the preview text and the spreadsheet documents that are stored within said one or more document stores, in response to [[a]] the link referred to said preview text or said spreadsheet document being indicated in [[a]] the main text or the spreadsheet document currently displayed on the workstation;

wherein each workstation being operable to display a preview of said text or said spreadsheet document referred to by [[a]] the link indicated in the main text or the spreadsheet document in whilst displaying the main text or the spreadsheet document.

~~each workstation being operable to co-operate with the access one or more document stores using the local network to store text and spreadsheet documents and to access stored text and spreadsheet documents and, in response to a link in a main~~

Art Unit: 2176

~~text or spreadsheet document currently displayed on the workstation being indicated to the workstation, to display a preview of a text or spreadsheet or document indicated by the link in the main text or spreadsheet document in addition to displaying the main text or spreadsheet document,~~

wherein the link referring to said text or said spreadsheet document is indicated to the workstation by positioning a pointer over the link.

wherein when each preview document is opened, the pointer automatically moves to within the newly opened preview window.

11. (Previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a local server coupled to the one or more document stores.

12. (Currently amended) A workstation comprising a display, data processing unit and user interface, operable according to the method of ~~claims~~ claim 2 ~~[[9]]~~ to display preview documents

13. (Original) A workstation as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a local document store, the workstation being operable to access a preview document from said document store.

14. (Original) A workstation as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a data store operable to cache the content and data associated with a preview document which has been removed from display.

15. (Currently Amended) A Web browser application running on a computer system and displaying a main document, the application configured to be operable according to the method of ~~claims~~ claim 2 [[-9]] to display preview documents whilst also displaying the main document.

16. (Previously Presented) A Web browser application as claimed in claim 15 wherein the main document is controllable using at least one tool provided by the application.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4 further comprising the step of:

 caching a preview document which has been removed from display.

18.-20. (Cancelled)

Art Unit: 2176

21. (Currently Amended) A method of browsing internet websites comprising:

(a) in response to placing a pointer over a URL reference or symbol of a current web page, displaying a ~~first~~ pop-up preview-window also having a URL reference or symbol;

(b) in response to placing the pointer over the URL reference or symbol of ~~[[the]]~~ said pop-up preview-window, displaying a child pop-up preview-window, whilst retaining display of said current web page;

(c) repeating step (b) to generate a plurality of child preview windows;
and

wherein when a new preview window is displayed, the pointer is automatically repositioned within the new preview window.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, further including in response to moving the pointer out of the new preview window back to a previous preview window, removing the new preview window.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21, further including in response to moving the pointer out of the new preview window to a previous preview window, removing all preview windows that are subsequent to the previous preview window.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21 wherein step (c) further includes:

after displaying the child pop-up preview window, placing the pointer over a URL reference or symbol in the child preview window to generate a second generation child preview window, the pointer being automatically repositioned within the second generation preview window;

placing the pointer over a URL reference or symbol in the second generation child preview window to generate a third generation child preview window, wherein the pointer being automatically repositioned within the third generation preview window, whilst the first preview window, the child preview window, the second generation child preview window and the third generation child preview window all continuing to be at least partially displayed ~~such that a sequence of preview windows are concurrently displayed.~~

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 24 further including:

a) in response to moving the pointer from within the third generation child preview window to the second generation child preview window, closing the third generation child preview window;

b) in response to moving the pointer to within the child preview window, closing the second and third generation preview windows;

Art Unit: 2176

c) in response to moving the pointer to within the first preview window, closing the child, second generation child, and third generation child preview windows;

d) in response to moving the pointer to a location in none of the preview windows, closing all of the preview windows.

26. (New) The method according to claim 21, further including displaying one of the preview windows as a current page in response to clicking on the specific preview window and removing all other preview windows from the display.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-17 and 21-26 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The amended claims overcome prior art(s) of record Petropoulos et al. (Patent No. 7,047,502 B1) in that the claimed invention recites *wherein when each preview document is opened, the pointer automatically moves to within the newly opened preview window*. This is supported within the specification, page 9, lines 18-21 and Fig. 2.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 2176

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James J. Debrow whose telephone number is 571-272-5768. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 10/507,341
Art Unit: 2176

Page 13

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ART UNIT 2176

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